

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *U.S. Census of Population, Housing, and Agriculture*, 1990, Table C-1.

104

INFLUENCE.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED.
SHEWAN, TOMES, AND COOCHING
ICE Company's Steamship

"KWANTUNG."
This Yacht will be despatched for the above
is TO-MORROW, the 29th instant, at
the instance of as previously advertised.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 17th May, 1884. [971]

ELLY AND WALSH'S
LIST OF NEW BOOKS AND
PUBLICATIONS.
Anderson's Modern Horsemanship, a new
method of teaching Riding and Training by
means of Pictures from life.
Harcourt's Cursory History of Swearing.
The Horse, its Management and
Treatment.
Doddard's Life of George Birkbeck, the
Engineer of Popular Education.
The Fairy's Page, a Novel by F. Wynne's Reid.
Archdukes and Popes, by Bishop of Col.
Harcourt's English Rules and Statutes.
The Queen's General Catalogue in China.
The Book Hunter.
The Meteoric Storm and Sunshine of the
Fairy's Life.
Anderson's The Electric Light in our homes.
M. Customs Returns and Reports of Trade
between the Between Two Oceans or Sketches
of American Travel.
The Quiver—Volume for 1883.
THE FRANCO CHINESE TREASURY
OF PEACE.
OF THE PROVINCE OF KWANG-
TUNG AND ISLAND OF HAINAN.
Containing on Tracing Cloth, Coloured, with all the
scenery of the Country most accurately detailed,
leading to the City of the Kwang-Tung
Shet with Coast line taken from
charts and details supplied by several Protestant
seamen long resident in the Interior.
100 miles to the Inch.
ELLY & WALSH—HONGKONG. [25]

NOTICE.
THE BRANCHES OF THE COMPTON-
ESCOMPTE DE PARIS in China
Japan have received instructions to PAY
Letters of Credit issued by the UNION BANK
OF LONDON on THE OVERSEA-CHINESE
COBINATION.
any person wishing to receive money under
Credits can apply to the Offices of the
COMPTON-ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.
E. G. VOUTHELMONT,
Manager.
Hongkong, 6th May, 1884. [959]

NOTICE.
THE Undersigned will OPEN an ICE
DEPOT in HONGKONG, CANTON, on the
instant, and requests the support of the
community thereto.
P. C. PATELL,
Hongkong, 13th May, 1884. [946]

WANTED—A SITUATION, by a
YOUNG MAN as CLERK, or TRADING
MANAGER, having a thorough knowledge of
Mandarin Chinese and Malay, and good re-
ferences.
Apply to
J. G.,
Care of "Daily Press."
Hongkong, 6th May, 1884. [929]

undersigned has REMOV

near of his former place of business,
france from Messrs. Turner & Co.'s Lane.
WILLIAM DOLAN
Hongkong, 9th May, 1884. [928]

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

N and after the First June Next, the
STORE of the Undersigned will be
MOVED to the Premises lately in the
possession of Messrs Epa da Silva & Co, No.
Queen's Road.

H. FOURNIER & Co.,
Storekeepers and Wine Merchants,
Hongkong, 1st May, 1884. [869]

NOTICE.

IGNOR ALCHIDAY SCALPHE, from
MILAN, offers to the Ladies and Gentle-
men of Hongkong his SERVICES as PIANO
PLAYER, and solicits their liberal patronage.
The Ladies and Gentlemen will be
advised to call on the above Gentleman.
Hongkong, 6th May, 1884. [806]

CATHARTIC INSURANCE OFFICE,
LIMITED.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

N INTERIM BONUS of 15 per cent.
upon contributions for the year 1883, has

on and after the 10th pr

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, 29th April, 1884. [856]

**HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.**

NOTICE is hereby given that in accordance with Resolution No. 2 passed at the ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders at the City Hall on the 30th December, all SHARES not taken up and the 1st, 2nd, and 4th CALLS PAID on or before 19th June next, will be disposed of by the voters in such manner as in their discretion they shall think best in the interests of the Corporation.

Order of the Court of Directors,
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 25th April, 1884. [830]

**INSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM
NAVIGATION COMPANY.**

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS.

THIS COMPANY now grant **PASSAGES**
through to LONDON via MANILA.

for the route by sea to

charged to MARSHELLS is now similar to
 A. McIVER,
 Superintendent.
 Hongkong, 14th March, 1884. [500]

FREE CLEARANCE SALE.
THAT T. N. DRISCOLL'S
 E whole of the STOCK to be Sold
 at less than English Cost.
 Special advantages offered in the
COLORING AND OUTFITTING
DEPARTMENTS
FOR CASH
 No. 6, Queen's Road.
 Hongkong, 29th March, 1884. [552]

**THE S. M. & Co.'s PATENT ANTI-
 FOULING COMPOSITION**
 as supplied to
 Majesty's Ships, T. & O. S. N. Co.,
 Hongkong Steamship Co., The Japanese
 Agent, China, Japan, and Manila.

MAILS EXPECTED.

COMMERCE		COTTON		SUGAR		RUBBER		WAX		HIDE		SHEEP		CATTLE		PORK		BEEF		LARD		TALLOW		GLASS		IRON		STEEL		COPPER		ZINC		LEAD		SILVER		GOLD													
SATURDAY, 17th May.																																																			
EXCHANGE.																																																			
LONDON.																																																			
Bank Bills on demand.		3/8 1/2		Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Bank Bills, at 60 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Bank Bills, at 90 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Bank Bills, at 120 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Bank Bills, at 150 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Bank Bills, at 180 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Bank Bills, at 210 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Bank Bills, at 240 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Bank Bills, at 270 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Bank Bills, at 300 days' sight.		3/8 1/2									
Credits, at 20 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Credits, at 30 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Credits, at 40 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Credits, at 50 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Credits, at 60 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Credits, at 70 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Credits, at 80 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Credits, at 90 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Credits, at 100 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Credits, at 110 days' sight.		3/8 1/2		Credits, at 120 days' sight.		3/8 1/2									
Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight.		3/8 1/2		Documentary Bills, at 6 months' sight.		3/8 1/2		Documentary Bills, at 9 months' sight.		3/8 1/2		Documentary Bills, at 12 months' sight.		3/8 1/2		Documentary Bills, at 15 months' sight.		3/8 1/2		Documentary Bills, at 18 months' sight.		3/8 1/2		Documentary Bills, at 21 months' sight.		3/8 1/2		Documentary Bills, at 24 months' sight.		3/8 1/2		Documentary Bills, at 27 months' sight.		3/8 1/2		Documentary Bills, at 30 months' sight.		3/8 1/2		Documentary Bills, at 33 months' sight.		3/8 1/2		Documentary Bills, at 36 months' sight.		3/8 1/2					
PARIS.																																																			
Bank Bills on demand.		4/69		Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight.		4/76		Bank Bills, at 60 days' sight.		4/76		Bank Bills, at 90 days' sight.		4/76		Bank Bills, at 120 days' sight.		4/76		Bank Bills, at 150 days' sight.		4/76		Bank Bills, at 180 days' sight.		4/76		Bank Bills, at 210 days' sight.		4/76		Bank Bills, at 240 days' sight.		4/76		Bank Bills, at 270 days' sight.		4/76		Bank Bills, at 300 days' sight.		4/76		Bank Bills, at 330 days' sight.		4/76		Bank Bills, at 360 days' sight.		4/76	
Credits, at 4 months' sight.		4/76		Credits, at 6 months' sight.		4/76		Credits, at 9 months' sight.		4/76		Credits, at 12 months' sight.		4/76		Credits, at 15 months' sight.		4/76		Credits, at 18 months' sight.		4/76		Credits, at 21 months' sight.		4/76		Credits, at 24 months' sight.		4/76		Credits, at 27 months' sight.		4/76		Credits, at 30 months' sight.		4/76		Credits, at 33 months' sight.		4/76		Credits, at 36 months' sight.		4/76					
BOMBAY.																																																			
Bank, 3 days' sight.		2/24 1/2		Bank, 6 days' sight.		2/24 1/2		Bank, 9 days' sight.		2/24 1/2		Bank, 12 days' sight.		2/24 1/2		Bank, 15 days' sight.		2/24 1/2		Bank, 18 days' sight.		2/24 1/2		Bank, 21 days' sight.		2/24 1/2		Bank, 24 days' sight.		2/24 1/2		Bank, 27 days' sight.		2/24 1/2		Bank, 30 days' sight.		2/24 1/2		Bank, 33 days' sight.		2/24 1/2		Bank, 36 days' sight.		2/24 1/2					
Private, 30 days' sight.		7/24		Private, 60 days' sight.		7/24		Private, 90 days' sight.		7/24		Private, 120 days' sight.		7/24		Private, 150 days' sight.		7/24		Private, 180 days' sight.		7/24		Private, 210 days' sight.		7/24		Private, 240 days' sight.		7/24		Private, 270 days' sight.		7/24		Private, 300 days' sight.		7/24		Private, 330 days' sight.		7/24		Private, 360 days' sight.		7/24					
SINGAPORE.																																																			
Bank, sight.		7/24		Bank, 30 days' sight.		7/24		Bank, 60 days' sight.		7/24		Bank, 90 days' sight.		7/24		Bank, 120 days' sight.		7/24		Bank, 150 days' sight.		7/24		Bank, 180 days' sight.		7/24		Bank, 210 days' sight.		7/24		Bank, 240 days' sight.		7/24		Bank, 270 days' sight.		7/24		Bank, 300 days' sight.		7/24		Bank, 330 days' sight.		7/24		Bank, 360 days' sight.		7/24	

BOSTON.....Messrs. Bates, Hundy & Co.
 FRANKFORD.....Mr. L. P. Fisher, 21, Merchants'
 Exchange.
 NEW YORK.....Messrs. S. M. Pettibone & Co.,
 37, Park Row.
 Daily Press Office, 26th February, 1884.

DAILY PRESS OFFICE, WYNDHAM ST.

Longkong, 5th May, 1894.

F. E. FOSTER, Agent.
Hongkong, 7th May, 1884.

Apply at the *Daily Press* Office,
Hongkong, January, 1884.

—Captain.
Kaisow, Brit. bk., J. Gadd—Captain.

VESSELS ON THE REPT.

UNION LINE.
FOR YOKOHAMA VIA NAGASAKI.
T HEN Steamship
"LORD OF THE ISLES,"
Captain Felgate, will be despatched for the
above Ports TO-DAY, the 18th instant, at
FOUR P.M.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.
Hongkong, 14th May, 1884. [95]

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAM-
SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA VIA AMOY.

THE Company's Steamship

"DIAMANTE."

Captain Stach, will be despatched for the above
Ports TO-DAY, the 19th instant, at FIVE P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 18th May, 1884. [96]

FOR MANILA VIA AMOY.

THE Spanish Steamer

“EMUY,”
Captain Romeritoia, will be despatched for the
above Ports TO-DAY, the 19th instant, at a
FIVE P.M.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
REMEDIOS & Co.
Hongkong, 16th May, 1884. [963]

FOR SWATOW AND BANGKOK.

**THE SCOTTISH ORIENTAL STEAM
SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.**

THE Company's Steamer
“PHRA CHOM KLAO.”

Shanghai, 17th May, 1894.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
YUEN FAT HONG,
Agents.
[967]

**CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.**

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

Calling at PORT DARWIN and QUEENSLAND
Ports, and taking through Cargo to NEW
ZEALAND : through Passage Tickets
granted to PORT MORESBY, NEW GUINEA.)

THE Steamship

“WOOSUNG.”
 Captain Hunt, will be despatched as above
 on WEDNESDAY, the 21st inst., at 4 P.M.
 This vessel has unusually good Cabin Accom-
 modation, situated amidships, upon the upper
 deck.
 For Freight or Passage, apply to
 BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents,
 Hongkong, 7th May, 1884. [315]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
 FOR LONDON, VIA SUEZ CANAL.
 The Company's Steamship

Captain Jackson, will be despatched as above
 on or about the 21st instant.
 For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
 Hongkong, 10th May, 1884.

Superintendent.
Hongkong, 12th May, 1884.

STEAM TO BOMBAY VIA STRAITS.
THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"ZAMBESI".

Will leave for the above place on SATURDAY,
the 24th instant, at THREE P.M.

A. MCIVER,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 15th May, 1884. [1884]

STEAM TO SHANGHAI.
THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"HYDASPES".

I leave for the above place about 38 hours
 after her arrival with the next English mail.
 A. McIVER,
 Superintendent.
 Hongkong, 12th May, 1884.

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAM-
 SHIP COMPANY.

MAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS
 TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES,
 MEXICO,
 CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA,
 AND EUROPE;
 VIA
 THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS,
 AND

PACIFIC AND OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.
THE Steamship "SAN PABLO," will be despatched for San Francisco, *via* Yokohama, on **FRIDAY**, the 30th instant, at **THREE P.M.**
 To be followed by the S. S. "ARABIC," on **MONDAY**, the 9th June, at **THREE P.M.**
 Connection being made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports.
 Passengers and cargo consignees should be marked to address in full, and will be received at the Company's Office until **FIVE P.M.** the day previous to sailing.
RETURN PASSAGES.—Passengers who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco

China or Japan (or vice versa) within six months, will be allowed a discount of 20 % from Return Fare; if re-marking within one year, allowance of 10 % will be made from Return Fare. Pre-Paid Return Passage Orders, available for one year, will be issued at a Discount of 25 % from Return Fare. *These allowances do not apply to through fares from China and India to Europe.*

Overland Passages to accompany Overseas, Mexican, Central, and South American Cargo, should be sent to the Company's Office, addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Francisco.

For further information as to Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 50a, Queen's Road Central.

The Postal Guide for 1884, revised to date will be found in the *Daily Press* Directory, p. 385 large edition, p. 633 small edition. This is the only authorized complete Summary of Postal information published in Hongkong.

6-3 The authorized List of Mails issued in connection with this paper is the one published twice each day in our Extra, which is always corrected to a much later hour than that given below.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE

For Nagasaki and Yokohama.—Per *Lord*
the *Isles*, to-day, the 19th inst., at 3.30 P.M.
For Saigon.—Per *Manalia*, to-day, the 19
inst., at 3.30 P.M.
For Amoy and Manila.—Per *Diamante*,
day, the 19th inst., at 4.30 P.M.
For Straits and Bombay.—Per *Zambee*,
Saturday, the 24th inst., at 2.30 P.M.

MAILS BY THE BRITISH PACKETS.
The British Contract Packet *Ancona*, w
be despatched on THURSDAY, the 22nd
inst., with Mails for the United Kingdom
Europe and countries beyond, *via Brindisi*;
the Straits Settlements, Batavia, Borneo, C
lon, India, Aden, Egypt, Malta, and Gibraltar

The usual hours will be observed in closing the Mails, &c.

HOURS FOR CLOSING THE CONTEAO MAILS.

THE FRENCH MAIL.
Day before Departure.

5 P.M., Money Order Office closes. Post Office closes; except the night box, which is always open out of office hours.

— *Day of Departure.*

7 A.M., Post Office opens.

10 A.M., Registry of Letters closes. Posting of all printed matter and patterns ceases.

11 A.M., Mail closes, except for Late Letters.

1.3. A.M.—Letters may be posted with Late Fee of 10 cents until

11.30 A.M., when the Post Office closes entirely.

11.40 A.M.—Tale Letters may be posted on board the packet with Late Fee of 10 Cents until the time of departure.

THE ENGLISH MAIL

The following hours are observed in closing Mails, &c., by the British Contract Packet:—

Day of Departure.

NOON.—Money Order Office closes.

2.00 P.M.—Registry of Letters closes. Posting of all printed matter and patterns ceases.

3.00 P.M.—Mails closed, except for Late Letters.

3.10 P.M.—Letters may be posted with late fee of 10 cents until

3.30 P.M.—When the Post Office closes entrance of letters.

3.40 P.M.—Late Letters may be posted on board the packet with late fee of 10 cents, until the time of departure.

The Post Office declines all responsibility for Unregistered Letters containing Jewellery, &c., and, where Registration has been neglected, will make no enquiries into alleged loss of such letters.

LETTERS FOR THE UNITED STATES BY SAILING SHIPS.

When it is desired to forward letters to the United States by a sailing ship which is not notified as carrying a mail, it is only necessary to post the letters in the ordinary way, marked

No responsibility can be accepted by the Post Office for erroneous replies to verbal enquiries.

to notes addressed to subordinate officers. The shroffs told off to sell stamps should especially not be regarded as able to give correct information. The Postal Guide alone is the standard of all points on which such information may be required.

RATES OF POSTAGE.	
Letters, per 1 oz.	10 Cent
Post Cards, each	8 Cent
Books, Patterns, and Commercial Papers, per 2 oz.	2 Cents
Newspapers & Prices Current, each	10 Cent
Registration	2 Cent
Commercial return receipt	15 Cent

Domestic stamps signify such papers as those which are

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' LETTERS.
(1.) Privates in H. M. Army or Navy, Non-commissioned Officers, Bandmasters, Schoolmasters (not Superintending or First Class), Writers, or School-mistresses may send half-price letters to the United Kingdom by the English Mail at the rate of two cents (one penny) each, or by the French Mail at the rate of four cents (two pence) each. The postage may be prepaid either in Imperial or in Hongkong Stamps, but not by both kinds or the same letter.

(2) 15 other Indianes beyond Great Britain, such as India, Malia, &c, this postage is 2 cents per copy.

(3) The same privileges apply to letters addressed to the Private and Non-commissioned Officers named above.

(4) The letters must not exceed half an ounce. No handkerchiefs, jewellery, &c., can be sent, even with the ends open.

5.—If from a Soldier or Sailor his class and description must be stated in full on the letter, & the cover of which must be signed by the Commanding Officer, with name of regiment, ship, &c. in full. If to a Soldier or Sailor, his class and description, with name of regiment, ship, &c. must be stated in full.

(6) Soldiers and Sailors have no privileges

* But not Warrant Officers, viz:—Conductor, Assistant Engineer, Gunner, Boatwain, or Carpenter.

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR DEBTS.

Neither the CAPTAINS, the AGENTS, nor the OWNERS, will be RESPONSIBLE for any DEBT contracted by the Officers or the Crews of the following Vessels during their stay in Hongkong Harbour:—

CAIRNGROSS, Brit. ship, Wm. Jack.—Adams & Co.
 Bell & Co.
 CENTAUR, Ger. bk. C. Offensen.—Wieler & Co.
 T. P. Ho, Brit. sh. Wm. Jarvis.—Tung Koo.
 T. P. Ho, Brit. sh. Wm. Jarvis.—Tung Koo.

—Captain.
Kaisow, Brit. bk., J. Gadd—Captain.

TRACTS.

THE DISCONTENTED TREE.

Within the forest glade and free,
A little tree grew up and free,
Though some were hot and winds were keen,
A little tree grew up and free.
But cold, for leaves, in need of green,
This did not please the little tree.
Which grew, brightest longest to be.
"How pretty my leaves are dressed!"
In gay green foliage, crown all!
But not a child will look at me,
Although I'm growing straight and tall.
Oh, if the wind were not so free,
I would have had of shining gold!
"Twas night, and all the forest slept,
And with it slept my little tree;
At once it woke with golden leaves,
And was not there a sight to see?
"There's not a leaf on the woods so free,
A tree," it said, "with leaves like mine."
But long before the day was done,
A wondrous scene came that was seen.
He had a sack upon his back,
And when he saw the glittering tree
He gathered all the leaves of gold,
And left the branches bare and cold.
The sapling hid its head in grief,
And mourned its glittering leaves of gold.
"My leaves," it said, "are nicely done,
While I stand naked here and cold.
I do not wish again, again,
Or else I'd wish for leaves of glass."
"Twas night again, and all the forest slept,
And with it slept my little tree;
It woke with leaves of crystal clear,
It was a brilliant sight to see.
"No tree," it said, "like me so shines,
Or has such pretty leaves as mine."
But soon a mighty wind was done,
That turned and tossed the branches all.
As it swept across the wood,
It made the crystal leaves fall.
And morning found them there, alas!
Scattered and broken on the grass.
The sapling gave a heavy moan,
It looked so naked, poor, and woe.
While all the other trees stood there,
Still glorious in their dress of green.
"I'm sure," it said, "this wind will prove,
That I stand naked here and cold.
When all things sleep at evening,
And when the sun is low and red,
The little tree was glad and gay,
"They're leaves," it said, "I've the same—
I need not hang my head for shame."
A good wind came down the mountain side,
In search of fields and pastures fair.
It tore away the leaves of gold,
But all the while about were bare.
It spied our sapling's foliage green,
And took to work and set it clean.
Our little tree again was bare,
And only to itself it said,
"No more I'll wish for leaves again,
Or green or yellow, white or red.
I'm sure I never shall complain,
Had I another leaf to shed."
It sadly slept at evening,
And at morning woke the tree;
But when the sun came out and looked,
And nearly faded away for gloom.
The sapling of the tree was plain—
Its foliage all was there again.
From the German, by E. B. M. TRAQUAIR.

GREEK FIRE.

At what period the ancient Greek fire was invented has never been definitely determined. There are many writers who place the invention in the fifth century, but details have been added pointing to the period of the earlier wars between the Greeks and Romans as the true era of the discovery. But we do not find any certain evidence of the use of Greek fire until the sieges of Constantinople, in the seventh and eighth centuries, through a Father of the Christian Church, writing in the fifth century, gave receipts for making a combustible substance of similar quality from the compounds resin, pitch, pines, turpentine, and the juice of the herb "all-heal." It is related that the true Greek fire was invented by a certain Callinicus, an architect of Heliopolis, in Syria (Baalbec) in 678. The secret of the composition of this artificial flame, and the art of directing its action were imported by Callinicus—who had deserted from the Caliph—to the Emperor of Constantinople. From this period until the year 1201 the use of Greek fire was an important element in the military power of the Byzantine empire. The progress of the Saracens was, more than once, decisively checked by the destructive action of this powerful and terrible flame. The important art of compounding the fire was preserved at Constantinople, says Gibbon, "as the palladium of the State; the galleys and artillery might occasionally be lent to the allies of Rome; but the composition of the Greek fire was concealed with the most zealous secrecy, and the terror of its enemy was increased and multiplied by the insurance and surprise." The accounts which have reached us respecting the properties of the Greek fire are such as to justify the high value attached by the Byzantine emperors to the secret of its composition. It was a liquid, which was propelled by various methods against the ships or engines of the enemy. So long as antiquity remained, or remained in large masses, the liquid appears to have been perfectly safe from combustion; but as soon as it was poured forth it burned with an intense flame which consumed everything around—not merely burning upward, but with equal fury downward and laterally. Water not only failed to quench it, but made it burn with new vigour. To subdue the flames it was necessary to employ, in large quantities, either sand or vinegar. Various methods were employed for propelling the liquid fire towards the enemy. Sometimes it was inclosed in vessels made of some substance, and these were hurled at the enemy by means of suitable projectile machines. It was either shot from a cannon, or hurled from the ramparts in large bolts, or hurled in red-hot balls of stone and iron, or darted in arrows and javelins, twisted round with flax and tow, which had deeply imbedded the inflammable oil. But the most effective of the destructive compound seems to have been best secured by means of a species of fire ship, specially constructed for the purpose. Copper and iron machines were placed in the fore part of these ships. Long tubes, fantastically shaped, so as to resemble the mouth and jaws of savage animals, formed the outlet for a stream of liquid fire, which the engine—literally a fire engine—propelled to a great distance. Handengines were also constructed by which the destructive compound could be squirted by the soldiers, Beckman tells us. The secret, as we have said, was carefully kept by the Byzantines. The Emperor Constantine suggested the answer which in his opinion were best fitted to elude the pertinacious questioning to the barbarians. "They should be told that the mystery of the Greek fire had been revealed by an angel to the first and greatest of the Constantines, with the sacred injunction that this gift of Heaven—should never be communicated to any foreign nation; that the prince and subject were alike bound to religious silence under the temporal and spiritual penalties of treason and sacrilege; and that any attempt would prove the sudden and supernatural vengeance of the God of the Christians." Gibbon adds that the secret

was religiously guarded was "confined for about 400 years to the Romans of the East, and at the end of the eleventh century the Pisans, to whom every sea and every air were familiar, suffered the secret without understanding the composition of Greek fire. This, however, is not wholly true. The secret was preserved, indeed, from the Romans of the West, but the Saracens managed to possess themselves of it very much earlier than Gibbon's account would imply. For at the siege of Thessalonica, in the year 904, the Saracens, who are told by John Comnenus, threw liquid fire, by means of tubes, upon the wooden defence of the besieged, and by this means principally succeeded in capturing the town. In the Holy Wars the Mohammedans freely availed themselves of the use of Greek fire. Gallant knights, who feared little the swords or lances of the Saracens, were terrified by the unaccountable and fearful flames of the unaccountable fire, which they hurled forth upon the towers of liquid fire. Joinville tells us that "it came flying through the air like a winged long tailed dragon, about the thickness of a hoghead, with the report of thunder and the velocity of lightning; and the darkness of the night was dispelled by this deadly illumination." It does not seem by any means unlikely that the invention of gunpowder rendered the ancient Greek fire no longer a very useful military weapon, that knowledge of the secret of its composition would be of little value. We must remember that the use of firearms rendered the old-fashioned engines, by means of which the liquid was propelled, no longer available, since those who used the engines could no longer venture near enough to the enemy. It was to this cause, we suspect, rather than to any want of efficiency in the compound itself, that the discontinuance of the use of Greek fire should be ascribed. The time had not yet come for making gunpowder itself a useful adjunct to the employment of liquid flame. It is not so clear, however, that the ancient Greek fire was much more efficient than that which has recently come into use. Still, the inquiry into the nature of its composition is not without interest. The Princess Anna Comnena states that Greek fire was compounded of sulphur, resin, and oil. It may be well to dwell on this point, since many writers have been disposed to consider asphaltum, or fossil bitumen, to have been the principal ingredient of the Greek fire. Possibly, however, the oil mentioned by Anna Comnena may have been naphtha, and not, as one would be disposed to infer, any of the ordinary vegetable or mineral oils; for the use of naphtha in lamps is of great antiquity. Gibbon writes—"Naphtha was mingled, I know not in what proportion, with sulphur and with pitch that is extracted from evergreen firs—that is, resin—in forming Greek fire." It is a moot point whether Prior Bacon ever discovered the true composition of the liquid fire. Many suppose that he concealed a real ignorance on the subject an apparently unmeaning answer to the questions addressed to him. Others, however, assert that two of the components of Greek fire were, as Bacon said, sulphur and pitch, and that the third is to be detected in the logograph—"Iura vop vix Can vixit." We leave this anagram to the ingenuity of our readers, mentioning, in passing, that it contains the appropos words, "vixit vixit," but that the extraction of these words leaves us only the combination "Iura vop vixit," from which it will not be found easy to form a word. Possibly there is a mistake in transcription to add to the anagrammatic difficulty. Many others have tried to elucidate the question. Prior Bacon, Charles du Fresnoy, Danczy, and Joinville—a host, in fact, of commentators, historians, and antiquaries—have all endeavoured to solve the problem, but the satisfactory solution of the problem has not yet been obtained, nor perhaps is it likely to be. It has been well remarked by a writer on the subject that "gunpowder blew the ancient Greek fire out of the field." But during the American war of 1860-65 it was shown that gunpowder might be used to blow modern Greek fire to pieces. Whether the example will be followed, we cannot say. The example will be followed, we cannot say. The example will be followed, we cannot say.

THE DISCONTENTED TREE.
Within the forest glade and free,
A little tree grew up and free,
Though some were hot and winds were keen,
A little tree grew up and free.
But cold, for leaves, in need of green,
This did not please the little tree.
Which grew, brightest longest to be.
"How pretty my leaves are dressed!"
In gay green foliage, crown all!
But not a child will look at me,
Although I'm growing straight and tall.
Oh, if the wind were not so free,
I would have had of shining gold!
"Twas night, and all the forest slept,
And with it slept my little tree;
At once it woke with golden leaves,
And was not there a sight to see?
"There's not a leaf on the woods so free,
A tree," it said, "with leaves like mine."
But long before the day was done,
A wondrous scene came that was seen.
He had a sack upon his back,
And when he saw the glittering tree
He gathered all the leaves of gold,
And left the branches bare and cold.
The sapling hid its head in grief,
And mourned its glittering leaves of gold.
"My leaves," it said, "are nicely done,
While I stand naked here and cold.
I do not wish again, again,
Or else I'd wish for leaves of glass."
"Twas night again, and all the forest slept,
And with it slept my little tree;
It woke with leaves of crystal clear,
It was a brilliant sight to see.
"No tree," it said, "like me so shines,
Or has such pretty leaves as mine."
But soon a mighty wind was done,
That turned and tossed the branches all.
As it swept across the wood,
It made the crystal leaves fall.
And morning found them there, alas!
Scattered and broken on the grass.
The sapling gave a heavy moan,
It looked so naked, poor, and woe.
While all the other trees stood there,
Still glorious in their dress of green.
"I'm sure," it said, "this wind will prove,
That I stand naked here and cold.
When all things sleep at evening,
And when the sun is low and red,
The little tree was glad and gay,
"They're leaves," it said, "I've the same—
I need not hang my head for shame."
A good wind came down the mountain side,
In search of fields and pastures fair.
It tore away the leaves of gold,
But all the while about were bare.
It spied our sapling's foliage green,
And took to work and set it clean.
Our little tree again was bare,
And only to itself it said,
"No more I'll wish for leaves again,
Or green or yellow, white or red.
I'm sure I never shall complain,
Had I another leaf to shed."
It sadly slept at evening,
And at morning woke the tree;
But when the sun came out and looked,
And nearly faded away for gloom.
The sapling of the tree was plain—
Its foliage all was there again.
From the German, by E. B. M. TRAQUAIR.

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INSURANCES.

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FIRST-CLASS RISK.
RATES ON FIRST-CLASS GODOWNS REDUCED TO 1/2 PER CENT. NET PER ANNUM FROM THIS DATE.

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Imperial Fire Insurance Company,
Hongkong, 9th May, 1884. [17]

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Hongkong, 9th May, 1884. [18]

THE UNDERWRITERS, AGENTS FOR THE ABOVE COMPANY, ARE PREPARED TO GRANT POLICIES AGAINST FIRE TO THE EXTENT OF \$50,000 ON ANY ONE.

FIRST-CLASS RISK.
RATES ON FIRST-CLASS GODOWNS REDUCED TO 1/2 PER CENT. NET PER ANNUM FROM THIS DATE.

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Agents,
Imperial Fire Insurance Company,
Hongkong, 9th May, 1884. [17]

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